In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for monitoring audio/video connections hereinafter called AV connections which have been set up in a network of distributed stations which are networked with one another via at least one of a wire-free and a wire bus connections, wherein

at least two types of stations exist in the network; one type of station being at least one control device for initiating, controlling and removing an AV connection from said AV connections and the other type of station being a controlled device being at least one of a AV server device and an AV renderer device, wherein

between at least two controlled devices said AV connection can be set up by said at least one control device, and ~~said controller device station~~ a first device from said at least two controlled devices monitors said AV connection to determine whether a second device from said at least two controlled devices which is AV connected to said ~~controller~~ first controlled device has sent a logging-off message whereby when said logging-off message is detected, said ~~controller~~ first controlled device ~~station~~ autonomously ends, without an operation from said at least one control device, the ~~setting up of said~~ AV connection with said ~~station from said at least control device~~ second controlled device which is logged off.

2. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a station which is AV connected to another station sends a signaling request to the stations in the network in the situation where the AV connection has remained unused for a first specific time, and in that, in the situation where the signaling request remains unanswered by the station which is AV connected to the requesting station, the requesting station autonomously internally ends the setting up of the AV connection.

3. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein when a new connection request arrives, a station from which an AV connection to another station has already been set up, sends a signaling request to the stations in the network and in that, in the situation where the signaling request remains unanswered by the

station which is AV connected to the requesting station, the requesting station autonomously internally ends the setting up of the AV connection.

4. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein, in the situation in which it is found that the other station on the AV connection which has been set up is still registered in the network, the logical connection has remained unused for a second specific time, the station which is carrying out the check autonomously internally ends the setting up of the existing AV connection.

5. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of audio and video data is transmitted via the AV connection.

6. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the data transmissions in the network are carried out in accordance with the rules of the UPnP Standard.

7. (Currently Amended) A network station for a network of distributed stations which are networked with one another via wire-free or wire bus connections, having means for setting up an audio/video connection hereinafter called AV connection to another station, wherein the network station is a controlled device and has monitoring means which it uses to monitor whether the station which is AV connected to it has sent a logging-off message, and furthermore having connection ending means for autonomously ending the AV connection which has been set up when the monitoring means finds that the logging-off message has been sent from the station which is AV connected to it <u>where said connection ending means operates without the use of a control point device.</u>

8. (Previously Presented) The network station as claimed in claim 7, wherein the monitoring means are also designed to monitor whether the AV connection which has been set up has remained unused for a first specific time and, if yes, to send a signaling request to the stations in the network, and is also designed such that it autonomously internally ends the setting up of the existing AV connection if the

signaling request remains unanswered by the station which is AV connected to the requesting station.

9. (Previously Presented) The network station as claimed in claim 7, wherein the monitoring means is designed to send a signaling request to the network stations when a new connection request for a further station has arrived and it has been found that the AV connection which has been set up has been unused for that time, with autonomous ending of the setting up of the existing AV connection when the signaling request remains unanswered by the station which is AV connected to the requesting station.

10. (Previously Presented) The network station as claimed in claim 9, wherein the monitoring means are also designed such that they end the setting up of the existing AV connection autonomously when it is found that the other station in the AV connection which has been set up is admittedly still registered in the network, but that the AV connection has remained unused for a second specific time.

11. (Previously Presented) The network station as claimed in claim 7, wherein the network station is designed for data transmissions in accordance with the UPnP Standard.